Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 TEL AV 13515 281835Z ACTION SS-25

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FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO NIACT IMMEDIATE INFO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5760 AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE

SECRETTEL AVIV 13515

EXDIS

CAIRO FOR AMBASSADOR EILTS FROM AMBASSADOR LEWIS

JERUSALEM FOR AMBASSADOR ATHERTON

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PEPR, IS, EG SUBJECT: GOI DECIDES TO POSTPONE DEPARTURE OF COMMUNICATIONS TEAM

REFS: A) CAIRO 21761, B) TEL AVIV 13421, C) CAIRO 21733

1. A GOOD DEAL OF CONFUSION HAS SUDDENLY BLOWN UP HERE OVER THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR INITIATING THE NEXT PHASE OF NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE EGYPTIANS. THE PROBLEM WILL BE SORTED OUT SHORTLY, I HOPE, AND ROY ATHERTON CAN EXPLAIN IT TO YOU ON SATURDAY. IN THE MEANTIME, HOWEVER, THE ISRAELIS ARE POSTPONING SENDING THEIR COMMUNICATIONS TEAM TO CAIRO, AT LEAST UNTIL AFTER THE NEW YEAR'S HOLIDAY (ENDING OCT 3). SUGGEST YOU EXPLAIN IN LOW KEY FASHION SO AS NOT TO GIVE UNINTENDED POLITICAL SIGNAL. PROBLEM IS NEED FOR US TO SORT OUT A BIT WITH THE ISRAELIS OUR NEXT STEPS, PLUS A RECURRENCE OF BUREAUCRATIC AND PERSONAL COMPETITION BETWEEN FOREIGN AND DEFENSE SECRET

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MINISTRIES HERE OVER LEADERSHIP ROLE IN NEGOTIATIONS. WE WILL LET THE EGYPTIANS KNOW THROUGH YOU WHAT THE ISRAELIS WANT TO DO ABOUT COMMUNICATIONS AS SOON AS THESE ISSUES HAVE BEEN RESOLVED. REGRET ANY INCONVENIENCE. LEWIS

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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